

LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission

Meeting minutes April 5, 2018 6:30pm

Arlington Senior Center, Ground Floor Conference Room

Members present: Bill Gardiner, Mel Goldsipe, Lisa Krinsky, Helene Newberg, Anna Watson

Staff: Christine Bongiorno, Director of Health and Human Services

Liaison: Rob Lorino, Robbins Library liaison

1. Welcome and Intros, members welcomed Rob Lorino, the Robbins Library liaison to the Commission.
2. Meeting minutes from March 22, 2018 approved as amended.
3. Outreach discussion: Group discussed strategies to get the word out about the Commission. From brief brainstorm: Outreach to Chamber of Commerce to queer owned businesses, GSAs in schools, youth centers such as the Fidelity House and Arlington Boys and Girls Club, Minuteman High School, METCO, Assisted Living Facilities, Faith based community, social media, website. Group agreed that by going through a strategic planning process, a plan can allow the group to define identity and who to reach out to.
 - a. Action steps:
 - Lisa Krinsky and Anna Watson will each forward to Christine Bongiorno ideas for strategic planning consultants. The group chose the following dates for the planning sessions: June 20, 21 7-9pm.
 - Anna Watson will update resource and services list.
 - Bill Gardiner will look at welcoming congregations/religious organizations in town.
 - Helene Newberg will look at websites from other Rainbow Commissions to get ideas on what can/should be posted.
 - Mel Goldsipe will advertise for an intern and will set up social media once an email is assigned to the commission.
4. Pride Event discussion: Group discussed hosting a Pride event and asking for a proclamation from the Board of Selectmen. The group discussed having a flag at Town Hall, and a picnic on day of Pride at the Town Hall gardens. Anna Watson and Mel Goldsipe will work on a proposal to be discussed at the next meeting.
5. Town Meeting: Mel Goldsipe prepared a draft annual report to be presented to Town Meeting on April 23rd. Anna Watson has agreed to present. Bill Gardiner presented a summary of research that he conducted to prepare for the Rainbow Commission warrant article last year. The research included an overview of the research he did to look at all states and all work on LGBTQ issues. He looked at information from hundreds of groups.
6. Subcommittees will meet as follows:

- a. Municipal Equality Index group will meet during the next few weeks.
- b. Town Day Committee will meet at 6pm on May 17th before the next meeting
- 7. Other miscellaneous action items:
 - a. Anna Watson will reach out to the schools for a student liaison
 - b. Mel Goldsipe will reach out to a trainer for a Trans102 training for August.
 - c. Christine Bongiorno will reach out to book the display cases at Town Hall for June.
 - d. Group discussed looking into running an empty storefront display

Future meeting dates: June 20, 21 (strategic planning sessions), July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm